

## THE NECROPOLIS AND GENERAL CEMETERY AND FUNERAL COMPANY.

We have appropriately enough now lying before us the prospectus of a company for forming a General Metropolitan Cemetery, under the above classic and significant title, and Mr. George Alfred Walker's work, entitled, "Gatherings from Grave Yards," to which we called the attention of our readers in No. 9 of THE BUILDER. We can only refer back to that article for our own opinion as to the indecency, the revolting indecency of the principal provision for interments in the city of London, and we may add to it in this place what is stated in the prospectus of the Necropolis—namely, that the deaths in London, being upwards of 15,000 annually, 5,000 of which number of persons dying are interred in the present suburban cemeteries, it leaves the astounding proportion of 10,000 still remaining to make up the pestiferous mass that is being constantly thrown into the tanks of the London churchyards. This of itself, however, hideous and loathsome as it is to the senses, and threatening as it is to the lives and health of the survivors, is not sufficient to induce a more decent and sensible practice, especially when expense and inconveniences of another kind attend it. To this, however, the attention of the Necropolis or General Metropolitan Cemetery Company has been directed, and it is proposed, in the words of their prospectus, "to supply a burial-place for the many at such a scale of charges, both for interment and conveyance to its locality, as may be within the means of persons of the most limited incomes."

It has been calculated, that by avoiding the enormous outlay which has been expended on the present cemeteries, and by combining in one comprehensive scheme both the interment itself, and also the conveyance of the body to its last resting place, attended by the relatives of the deceased, a decent and respectable funeral can be provided by this company at less than the most common interments in our metropolitan receptacles, and at 40 per cent. at least below the expense attending an interment in one of the present cemeteries. This appears to us to be the grand inducement, for even in matters of the most serious import, we are so much the slaves of custom and habit, that nothing less than a direct and unequivocal appeal to our pecuniary interests has its influence. Shareholders in this company can only be brought in by a sense of the money advantage; though it is a weighty reason with them if their benevolence and interest can be associated together, and that they can be so, we think is demonstrated by this prospectus. A large tract of freehold ground has been engaged at Harefield Green, close to the metropolis, and with the provisions of economy already noted, we think every satisfaction will be given. There are extreme features peculiar to this company, and not embraced by any other, which may have their weight in determining many persons to aid in the undertaking, and these are the provision of funeral chambers, where the corpse and coffin may be, at a moderate charge, for the usual period, and thus get rid of that painful necessity in which thousands are now involved, of living for so many days and nights in the same apartment with their deceased relatives; and the other is a provision by which the benevolent may largely and gratefully aid the poor, as a proprietor of not less than 50 shares, on payment of 15 guineas, and any person not being a shareholder, on payment of 30 guineas will be entitled to a ticket annually during life for the interment, free of expense, of any poor person; and two mourners will be provided with decent cloaks and conveyance to the cemetery.

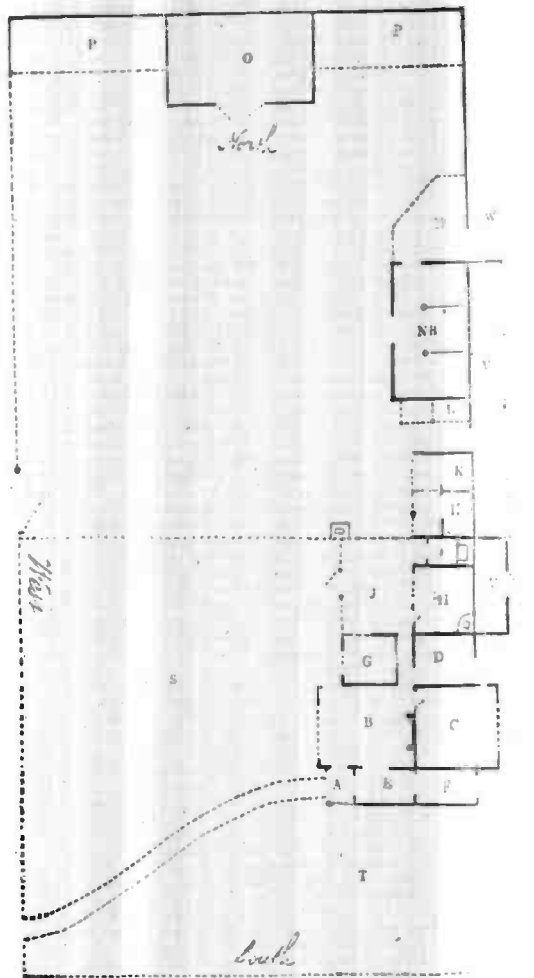
We cannot, in drawing attention to the subject, do justice at the same time to Mr. Walker's book, but it is an extraordinary one, and if it could be read at the same time as the hand is in the pocket awaiting the deliberate resolve as to subscribing or not subscribing for shares in the Cemetery or Necropolis, it would determine many. Such a statement of facts, bearing upon the whole question of interments, raked up from every record, ancient and modern, and without so interesting, it has not been our lot frequently to look into, but we must resume our notice of it at a special and more fitting opportunity.

## PLAN FOR A FARMSTEAD.

Sir,—Having been a subscriber from the first to your valuable paper, and having derived much gratification, will you allow me to draw your attention to the necessary improvement of buildings suitable for the allotment system, as through the expensive machinery of the New Poor Law system, and the want of natural and moral feeling displayed in too many instances in the carrying the same out, many landowners are disgusted with it, and

are adopting the plan of cottage allotment by spade husbandry; cottages to have three rooms each, with not less than half an acre of ground, to be occupied by day labourers; and small farms of five acres, part arable and meadow land, with a farm homestead; and it having been proved that spade husbandry is the most profitable to the land, provided a sufficiency of manure can be made, this is easily done when divided into arable and pasture.

The enclosed plan I beg to submit for consideration as suitable for a five-acre allotment or farm.



A. Porch	4 by 4
B. Living-room	14 by 10
C. Bed-room	11 by 10
D. Ditto	8 by 7
E. Pantry	8 by 4
F. Store	8 by 4
G. Dairy	7 by 7
H. Scullery	8 by 8
I. Privy	
J. Paved yard with pump.	
K. Pigsties.	
L. Poultry.	
N. Stable for cows	14 by 11
O. Dung pit.	

A. Barn	20 by 12
P. P. Open sheds.	
H. Farm yard about 60 ft. square.	
B. Lawns or bleaching ground, 10 by 30	
T. Flower garden.	
V. V. Sheds for garden produce, &c.	
W. Kitchen garden and orchard, half an acre.	

The cost of a homestead of this description would be about 1700. I quite agree with your correspondence in No. 32, that the plan of the designs, when completed, should be stated.

I remain, Sir, &c. &c. and constant reader,  
P. T.

IMPROVEMENTS IN PIMLICO.—The mews at the corner of James-street and Stafford-row, nearly opposite the equestrian entrance to Buckingham Palace, were razed to the ground on Friday and Saturday, the building materials having been previously sold by auction, in order to make the site for the intended improvements in the vicinity of the

Palace. The demolition of the White Horse public-house is deferred for the present, and the improvement is to be a dining room and will be limited to building a wall to James-street, the wide space thus obtained will enable government to remove the hackney-coach stand several feet from where it at present stands.